

**REMARKS**

Claims 24-27 and 34 are currently pending. Claims 1-23, 28-33, and 35-36 are cancelled. Claims 24, 25, and 34 were allowed. Claims 26 and 27 were amended to depend from allowed claims 24 or 34. Accordingly, only allowed claims remain pending in the present application. An early notice of allowance is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

If this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,  
**WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP**

/John P. Kong/

John P. Kong  
Attorney for Applicants  
Registration No. 40,054  
Telephone: (202) 822-1100  
Facsimile: (202) 822-1111

JPK/af